



GeoForAll

Monthly Newsletter



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Table of Contents

Editorial	
Editorial Board	
1. Activities	
2. A) Lab of the month.....	
B) GeoAmbassador	
3. Events	
4. Conferences	1
5. Webinars	5
6. Courses	
7. Training programs	5
8. Key research publication.....	
9. Funding opportunities	
10. New free and open software, open data	5
11. Free Books	6
12. Articles	6
13. Scholarships for students and staff	
14. Exchange programs for students and staff	
15. Awards	
16. Web sites	
17. Ideas	8
18. Social contribution	

4. Conferences

Europe

September 2026

1. 7-9: [Environmental Intelligence 2026](#)

Venue: University of Exeter, Streatham
Campus, Exeter, UK

2. 16-18: [PLATIAL '26: International
Symposium on Platial Information
Science](#)

Venue: Salzburg, Austria

3. 21-25: [EGI 2026](#)

Venue: Ghent, Belgium

October 2026

4. 6-8: [RDA 27th Plenary Meeting](#)

Venue: London

February 2027

5. 09-12: [21st International Digital
Curation Conference \(IDCC27\)](#)

Venue: Lisbon, Portugal



Asia

August 2026

6. 30-September 5: [FOSS4G 2026](#)

Venue: Hiroshima, Japan

November 2026

7. 4-5: [Singapore Open Research
Conference 2026](#): "AI and Open
Research: Building Trust, Ensuring
Security, Driving Impact,"

Venue: Nanyang Executive Centre,
Nanyang Technological University,
Singapore

North America

November 2026

8. 2-4: [FOSS4G NA 2026](#)

Venue: Sacramento, California, USA

Africa

September 2026

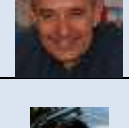
9. 21-25: [AGSE 2026](#)

Venue: Kwame Nkrumah University of
Science & Technology, Kumasi, Ghana,
Africa



Editorial Board

Please refer to the appropriate person according to the following table:

Chief Editor 	Nikos Lambrinos, Professor, Dept. of Primary Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. President of the Hellenic digital earth Centre of Excellence labrinos@eled.auth.gr	Oceania
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GeoForAll Themes

▪ OpenCity Smart

Theme under revision

▪ Teacher Training & School Education

➤ Chairs: Elżbieta Wołoszyńska-Wiśniewska (Poland), Nikos Lambrinos (Greece)

➤ Mail list: geoforall-teachertraining@lists.osgeo.org

➤ Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/GeoForAll_TeacherTraining_SchoolEducation

▪ CitizenScience

➤ Chairs: Peter Mooney (Ireland) and Maria Brovelli (Italy)

➤ Mail list: <https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-geocrowd>

➤ Website: http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/Geocrowdsourcing_CitizenScience_FOSS4G

▪ AgriGIS

➤ Chairs: Didier Leibovici (U.K.) and Nobusuke Iwasaki (Japan)

➤ Mail list: <https://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-agrigis>

➤ Website: <http://wiki.osgeo.org/wiki/AgriGIS>

GeoForAll Regional Chairs and Contact Information

North America Region

Chairs: Helena Mitsova (USA), Charles Schweik (USA), Phillip Davis (USA) Subscribe at mail list

<http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-northamerica>

Email: na.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

Iberoamerican Region

Chairs: Sergio Acosta y Lara (Uruguay) and Silvana Camboim (Brazil) and Antoni Pérez Navarro (Spain).

Subscribe at mail list:

<https://lists.osgeo.org/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-iberoamerica>

Email: geoforall-iberoamerica@lists.osgeo.org

Africa Region

Chairs: Msilikale Msilanga (Tanzania), Serena Coetzee (South Africa) and Bridget Fleming (South Africa) Subscribe at mail list

<http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-africa>

Email: africa.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

Asia Region (including Australia)

Chairs: Tuong Thuy Vu (Malaysia/Vietnam) and Venkatesh Raghavan (Japan/India) Subscribe at mail list

<http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-asiaaustralia>

Email: asia.gfa.chair@osgeo.org

Europe Region

Chairs: Maria Brovelli (Italy) and Peter Mooney (Ireland) Subscribe at mail list

<http://lists.osgeo.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/geoforall-europe>

Email: eu.gfa.chair@osgeo.org



GeoAmbassador Content table

July 2016, Vol.2, no.7	Prof. Georg Gartner, Vienna University of Technology
Aug 2016, Vol.2, no.8	Prof. Silvana Philippi Camboim, Federal University of Paraná, Brazil
Sep 2016, Vol.2, no.9	Nimalika Fernando, Sri Lanka
Oct 2016, Vol.2, no.10	Sergio Acosta Y Lara, Montevideo Uruguay
Nov 2016, Vol. 2, no. 11	Victoria Rautenbach, Centre of Geoinformation Science Univ. of Pretoria, South Africa
Dec 2016, Vol.2, no.12	Dr. Daria Svidzinska, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine
Jan 2017, Vol.3 no.1	Dr. Mark Ware, University of South Wales, UK
Feb 2017, Vol.3, no. 2	Dr. Rafael Moreno Sanchez, Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado Denver, USA
March 2017, Vol.3 no.3	Dr. Tuong Thuy Vu, School of Environmental and Geographical Sciences, University of Nottingham, Malaysia campus
April 2017, Vol.3 no.4	Michael P. Finn, U.S. Geological Survey
May 2017, Vol.3 no.5	Dr. Peter Mooney, Maynooth University, NASA
June 2017, Vol.3 no.6	Patrick Hogan, NASA
July 2017, Vol.3 no.7	Prof. Dr. Josef Strobl, Salzburg
September 2017, Vol.3 no.9	Bridget Fleming, South Africa
October 2017, Vol.3 no.10	Sven Schade, Joint Research Centre, Italy
November 2017, Vol.3 no.11	Luciene Stamato Delazari, Universidade Federal do Paraná in Brazil
December 2017, Vol.3 no.12	Charlie Schweik, Univ. of Massachusetts, USA
January 2018, Vol.4 no.1	Julia Wagemann, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
February 2018, Vol.4 no.2	Barend Köbben, Department of Geo-Information Processing University of Twente
March 2018, Vol.4 no.3	Kurt Menke, Birds Eye View
April 2018, Vol.4 no.4	Dr. Clous Rinner, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
June 2018, Vol.4, no.6	Martin Landa, Department of Geomatics, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University (CTU) in Prague

Lab of the Month, Content table

Aug 2015, Vol.1 no.1	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Kathmandu University, Nepal (Asia)
Sep 2015, Vol.1 no.2	FOSS4G Lab, University of Colorado Denver (USA)
Oct 2015, Vol.1, no.3	Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of Southampton, UK (Europe)
Nov 2015, Vol.1 no.4	The Northeast Institute of Geography and Agroecology of Chinese Academy of Science, China (Asia)
Jan 2016, Vol.2 no.1	Centre for Geoinformation Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa, (Africa)
Feb 2016, Vol.2 no.2	Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of Newcastle, UK, (Europe)
Mar 2016, Vol.2 no.3	SMART Open Source Geospatial Lab, University of Wollongong, (Australia)
Apr 2016, Vol.2 no.4	Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development, Nairobi, Kenya (Africa)
May 2016, Vol.2 no.5	GeoDa Centre – Arizona State University, (USA)
June 2016, Vol.2 no.6	Dirección Nacional de Topografía – MTOP Montevideo, Uruguay, (South America)
July 2016, Vol.2 no.7	SIGTE – University of Girona, Spain (Europe)
August 2016, Vol.2 no.8	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Department of Geodesy and Surveying, Budapest Univ. of Technology and Economics, Hungary (Europe).
September 2016, Vol.2 no.9	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Faculty of Geodesy, University of Zagreb, Croatia, (Europe)
October 2016, Vol.2 no.10	Hellenic digital earth Centre of Excellence, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, (Europe)
November 2016, Vol.2 no.11	Department of Geoinformatics, Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic
December 2016, Vol.2 no.12	Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand
January 2017, Vol.3 no.1	Spatial Lab, Texas A&M, Corpus Christi, USA
February 2017, Vol.3 no.2	Open Source Geospatial Lab, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Belgrade, Serbia
March 2017, Vol.3 no.3	Geomatics and Earth Observation Laboratory (GEOLab), Politecnico di Milano, Italy
April 2017, Vol.3 no.4	Faculty of Civil Engineering, Department of Geomatics, Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic
May 2017, Vol.3 no.5	the Laboratory of socio-geographical research of the University of Siena, ITALY
June 2017, Vol.3 no.6	A World Bridge program
July 2017, Vol.3 no.7	Department of Civil, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering of the University of Trento, Italy
August 2017, Vol.3 no.8	Institute of Geography, Faculty of Science, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia
November 2020, Vol.6 no.11	Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Spain
January 2021, Vol.7 no.01	gvSIG Uruguay Community, Uruguay



5. Webinars

- If you want to start learning how to use QGIS, there are some excellent free resources at <https://www.gislounge.com/free-ways-to-learn-qgis/>
- **8th ESA-ECMWF-EUMETSAT Joint Training in Atmospheric Composition**
 Start date: Oct. 19, 2026
 End date: Oct. 19, 2026
 Host: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
 Organizer: EUMETSAT, ESA, ECMWF
 Format: Blended course
 Language: English
 Contact name: Edward Malina
 Contact email: eotraing@esa.int
 Link: <https://atmostraining2026.esa.int/>
- **International Autumn School on Satellite Data Analysis**
 Start date: Nov. 9, 2026
 End date: Nov. 9, 2026
 Host: Hellenic National Meteorological Services
 Organizer: EUMETSAT
 Format: Blended course
 Language: English
 Fees: No
 Contact name: Natasa Strelec Mahovic
 Contact email: training@eumetsat.int
 Link: <https://classroom.eumetsat.int/course/view.php?id=158>

7. Training programs

- GeoForAll educational materials have been transferred to our new web site. [GeoForAll educational inventory system, a place to search and share educational materials](#)

10. New Free and Open software, data, etc.

- [Sentinel-6B Altimetry NRT/STC Datasets Release](#)

NASA's Physical Oceanography Distributed Active Archive Center (PO.DAAC) has made an initial release of datasets from the [Sentinel-6B](#) radar altimeter mission, which aims to provide high-precision measurements of global sea-level that build upon the extensive record of observation from the previous Jason series of altimetry missions.

The datasets are described and discoverable via [Earthdata Search](#).

- [Global Space-based Stratospheric Aerosol Climatology Version 2.24 Now Available](#)

The Global Space-based Stratospheric Aerosol Climatology (GloSSAC) Version 2.24 collection has been released. This version extends the dataset coverage from January 1, 1979, to December 31, 2025, and includes several minor revisions. This release includes the Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment III on the International Space Station (SAGE III/ISS) version 6.0 and Optical Spectrograph and InfraRed Imager System (OSIRIS) version 7.4.

Referenced Dataset

[Global Space-based Stratospheric Aerosol Climatology Version 2.24](#)

- [GEDI Version 3 Data Products Released](#)

The Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center (LP DAAC) has released Global Ecosystem Dynamics Investigation ([GEDI](#)) Version 3 Level 1B Geolocated Waveform Data, Level 2A Elevation and Height Metrics Data, and Level 2B Canopy Cover and Vertical Profile Metrics Data. The GEDI instrument aboard the International Space Station (ISS) is a full-waveform lidar instrument that produces detailed measurements of the three-dimensional structure of Earth's surface.

This release includes data acquisitions from April 4, 2019, to March 16, 2023, and from April 26, 2024, to July 10, 2025. No data were collected while the [GEDI mission was paused](#) from March 17, 2023, to April 25, 2024. Newer GEDI acquisitions will be made available in upcoming releases.

[GEDI L1B Geolocated Waveform Data Global Footprint Level V003](#)



11. Free books, educational materials, etc.

- Visit the YouTube QGIS channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGS162t4hkOA0b35ucf1yng/videos> to get videos of QGIS applications, representations and ideas.

- **How Data need people**, by Götz Hoeppe, Cambridge University Press, 2026

A new open access publication examining the human and social dimensions of data-intensive research offers valuable perspectives for the Research Data Alliance community and those working across open science, data stewardship, and collaborative research environments.

Published by Cambridge University Press, *How Data Need People – The Social and Epistemic Practice of a Data-Rich Science* by Götz Hoeppe examines how scientific data functions not only as information, but also as part of broader social, epistemic, and collaborative practices within research environments.

[Download Book here](#)

12. Articles

Acronyms

by **Nikos Lambrinos**, Chief Editor, and **Michael Finn**.

For those who would like to support this effort, please send any acronyms to the Chief Editor (labrinos@eled.auth.gr).

3DEP: 3-D Elevation Program

AAG: Association of American Geographers

AGI: Ambient Geographic Information

AGS: American Geographical Society

AGU: American Geophysical Union

AI: Artificial Intelligence

AM/FM: Automated Mapping/Facilities Management

AOSP: African Open Space Platform

API: Application Programming Interface

ASPRS: American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

AURIN: Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network

BBSRC: Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council

BDS: BeiDou Navigation Satellite Demonstration System

BIM: Building Information Modelling

CAADP: Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme

CAD: Computer Aided Design

CaGIS: Cartography and Geographic Information Society

CCGI: Collaboratively Contributed Geographic Information

CDSE: Copernicus Data Space Ecosystem

CEGIS: Center of Excellence for Geospatial Information Science

CEOS: Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

CHIRPS - Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data

CI: CyberInfrastructure

CLGE: The Council of European Geodetic Surveyors

CLMS Data: Copernicus Land Monitoring Service Data

CODATA: Committee on Data for Science and Technology

COGO: Coordinate geometry

CRC: Census Research Centre

CRS: Coordinate Reference System

CSA: Canadian Space Agency

CSSTEAP: Center for Space Science & Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific



CUDA: Compute Unified Device Architecture
 DAAC: Distributed Active Archive Center (of NASA)
 DEM: Digital Elevation Model
 DSM: Digital Surface Models
 DWG: Design file format
 DXF: Drawing Interchange File
 ECMWF: European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting
 EOS: Earth Observation Science
 EOSDIS: Earth Observing System and Data Information System
 EPA: Environmental Protection Agency
 EPSG: European Petrol Survey Group (used in projection IDs)
 ESA: European Space Agency
 ESERO: European Space Education Resource Office
 EUROGI: European Umbrella Organisation for Geographic Information
 EuroSDR: European Spatial Data Research
 FDO: FAIR (Find, Access, Interoperate, and Reuse) Digital Objects
 FOSS: Free and Open Source Software
 FOSS4G: Free and Open Source Software For Geospatial
 GCP: Ground Control Point
 GDAL: Geospatial Data Abstraction Library
 GEO: Group on Earth Observations
 GEO: Geosynchronous Earth Orbits
 GloFAS: Global Flood Awareness System
 GNSS: Global Navigational Satellite System
 GODAN: Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition
 GPS: Global Positioning System
 GPX: GPS Exchange Format
 GRACE: Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (satellite program)
 GRASPgfs: Geospatial Resource for Agricultural Species and Pests and Pathogens with workflow integrated modeling to support Global Food Security

GSoC: Google Summer of Code
 HLPF: High Level Political Forum (of UN)
 HOT: Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
 HPC: high-performance computing
 ICA: International Cartographic Association
 ICIMOD – International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
 ICSU-WDS: International Council for Science – World Data System
 IDE: Spatial Data Infrastructure
 IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development
 INSPIRE: Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe
 IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
 IPGH: Pan American Institute of Geography and History
 ISO: International Organization for Standardization
 ISPRS: International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
 ISRO: Indian Space Research Organization
 JAXA: Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
 KML: Keyhole Markup Language
 LBS: Location-Based Service
 LEO: Low Earth Orbits
 LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging
 LOC: Local Organizing Committee
 LOD: Level Of Detail
 MEO: Medium Earth Orbits
 MIL: Media and Information Literacy
 MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
 MSS: Multispectral Scanner
 NAD: North American Datum
 NARSS: National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences of Egypt
 NCSA: National Center for Supercomputing Applications
 NDVI - Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
 NDWI - Normalized Difference Water Index
 NED: National Elevation Dataset



NEPAD: New Partnership for African Development

NGA: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency

NHD: National Hydrologic Dataset

NIR - Near-Infrared

NLCD: National Land Cover Dataset

NOOSA: United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs

NRSA: Indian National Remote Sensing Agency

NSDI: National Spatial Data Infrastructure

NSF: National Science Foundation

OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development

OER: Open Educational Resources

OGC: Open Geospatial Consortium

OHI: International Hydrographic Office

OSGeo: Open Source Geospatial Foundation

OSM: OpenStreetMap

OTB: Orfeo Tool Box

PPGIS: Public Participation in Geographic Information Systems

PPSR: Public Participation in Scientific Research

RBV: Return Beam Vidicon

RCMRD: Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development

RDA: Research Data Alliance

ROSCOSMOS: Russian Federal Space Agency

ROSHYDROMET: Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring

RUFORUM: Regional Universities Forum for capacity building in agriculture

SaaS: Software as a Service

SAR: Synthetic Aperture Radar

SDG: Sustainable Development Goal

SDI: Spatial Data Infrastructure

SIG: Geographic Information System

SIGTE: The GIS and Remote Sensing Service of the University of Girona, Spain

SPIDER: open SPatial data Infrastructure eDucation nEtwork

SQL: Structured Query Language

STISA 2024: Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa

STSM: Short Term Scientific Missions

SWIR: Short Wave Infrared

TIN: Triangulated Irregular Network

UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

UML: Unified Modeling Language

UN-GGIM: United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management

USGS: U.S. Geological Survey

USGIF: United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation

VGI: Volunteered Geographic Information

VNIR: Visible Near Infrared

XSEDE: Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment

WCS: Web Coverage Service

WFS: Web Feature Service

WGCapD: Working Group on Capacity Building and Data Democracy

WGS: World Geodetic System

WISERD: Wales Institute of Social & Economic Research, Data & Methods

WMO: World Meteorological Organization

WMS: Web Map Service

WMTS: Web Map Tiles Services

WOIS: Water Observation Information System

WPS: Web Processing Service

17. Ideas / Information

1. If you are interested in educational material, then go to <https://www.osgeo.org/initiatives/geo-for-all/in-your-classroom/> where you can find software resources for your classroom. Also, go to “Resources” <https://www.osgeo.org/resources/> to get a guidance on how to use open source projects and tools.

2. UNESCO Launches New Open Science Platform

UNESCO has just launched the UNESCO Open Science Platform, unveiled during **UN Open Source Week 2026** in New York. Developed as free and open-source software, the platform brings together research outputs from UNESCO's major science programmes, awards, and fellowship initiatives, providing access through an InvenioRDM-powered repository with rich metadata, open access information, and research impact indicators.



In addition to offering access to research publications, the platform features curated highlights and plain-language summaries designed to make research more accessible to policymakers and broader audiences. It also includes an interactive dashboard tracking progress on the implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science across UNESCO Member States, using data from UNESCO's first global consultation. The platform reflects many of the principles valued by the RDA community, including openness, discoverability, accessibility and the responsible sharing and reuse of research outputs.



Visit the [UNESCO Open Science Platform](#) to learn more and access the platform.

- **RDA Organisational Member Data Observatory Opens its Catalog of 1000 Datasets to boost research and innovation.**

By Marco Zecchetto, RDA News, July 3, 2026

With the goal of addressing information fragmentation and consolidating a national node to strengthen evidence-based decision-making, applied research, innovation, and the development of artificial intelligence (AI), Data Observatory (DO) launched a platform featuring an open catalog that brings together 1,017 datasets from various institutions with nationwide scope.

[The DO catalog](#) — a public-private technology center focused on open data, bringing together the Ministries of Science and Economy, Amazon Web Services, and Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez — is aimed at researchers, academics, public institutions, companies, developers, journalists, and civil society. Data Observatory's Executive Director, Rodrigo Roa, explained that the initiative seeks to facilitate access to, organization, discovery, and reuse of information through international standards such as FAIR, which promotes data that are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable, and DataCite, which is designed to strengthen data documentation, traceability, and citation practices.

The platform covers data across six areas — natural and exact sciences, engineering and technology, medical and health sciences, agricultural sciences, social sciences, and humanities — and currently integrates information from the National Statistics Institute (INE); the Judiciary; the Ministries of Health, Energy, and Environment; the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy; the Chilean Copper Commission (Cochilco); the Office of Agricultural Studies and Policies (Odepa); the National Forestry Corporation (Conaf); and the Electoral Service (Servel).

"The primary sources we currently have are all national. This is a long-term project that primarily seeks to begin structuring and raising awareness about rapid, optimized, and efficient access to information. This is not just another repository; it is scientific infrastructure that positions us on the global stage," said Roa.

Potential

Roa explained that the platform operates as "a Google-like search engine, but with enriched metadata," meaning additional information about the origin, license, date, and citation format of each dataset. The catalog includes databases ranging from vehicle registration permits, pensions, healthcare facilities, and hospital discharge records to disability statistics, among many others.

He highlighted the importance of having high-quality data infrastructure — that is, data that are "well-documented, accessible, traceable, and interoperable" — and stated that the catalog's potential lies in its ability to contribute to scientific development, public policy, digital services, and artificial intelligence that is "relevant" to the national context.

"Chile produces valuable data in areas such as astronomy, the environment, health, energy, agriculture, biodiversity, justice, economics, territorial development, and social phenomena. The challenge is ensuring that these data can be found, connected, and reused," Roa noted.

He also explained that DO does not directly host the data but instead connects to the original sources through Application Programming Interfaces (APIs).

